



U.S. Army Regional Environmental Offices

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REO History

- **Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Environmental Security) established REO/ DoD REC concept in 1994**
- **Army selected as DoD executive agent for EPA Regions 4, 5, 7, and 8**
- **AEC selected by HQDA to execute REO functions**
- **Army REOs established in September 1995**
- **DoD issued charter for REOs (DoDI 4715.2 (1996))**

REO Mission

- **Coordinate, communicate, and facilitate resolution of regional, state and local environmental issues of importance to Army/DoD installations with federal, state and local officials, the business community and the general public**
- **Serve as DoD Regional Environmental Coordinator (REC) for assigned regions of responsibility**

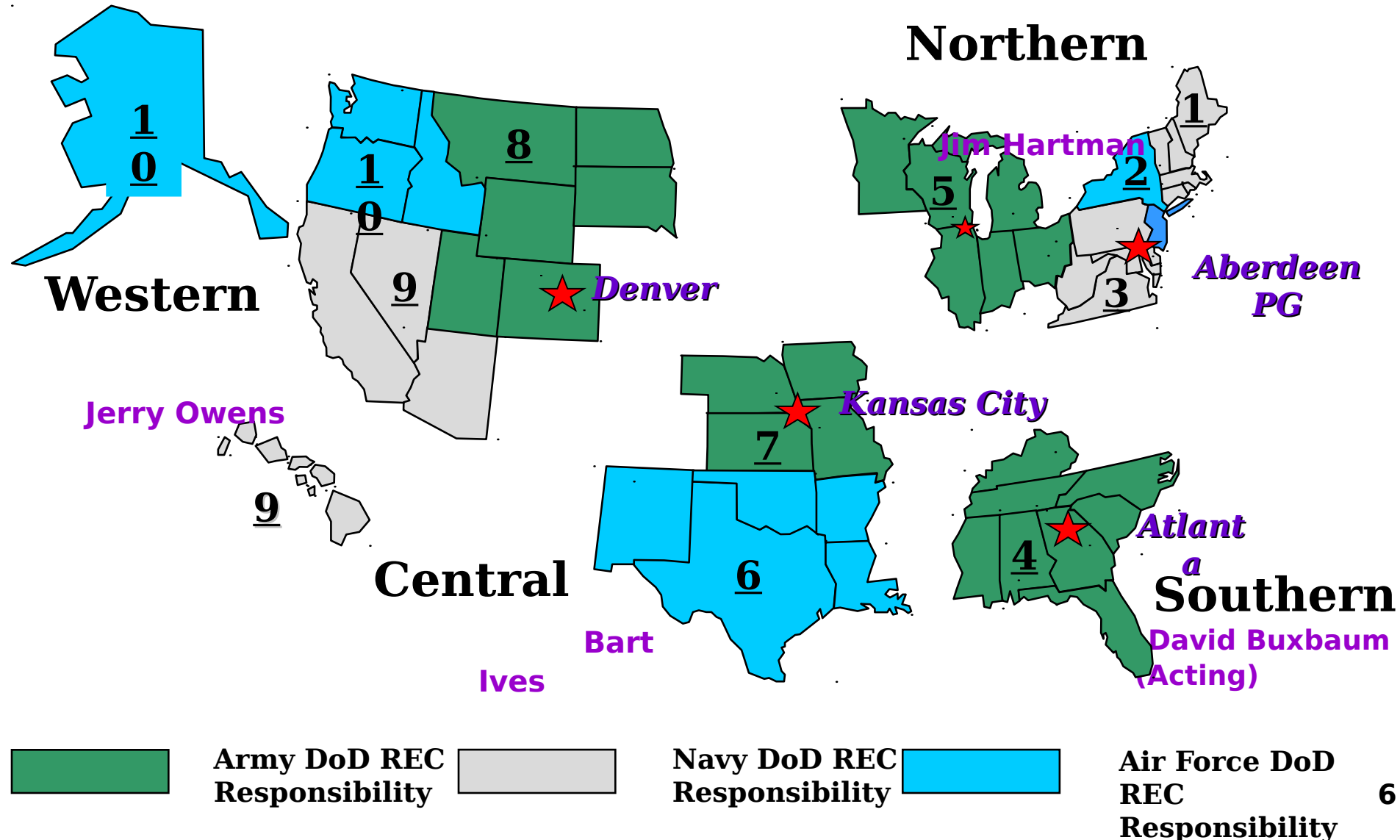
REO Key Activities

- **Track and comment on State legislation and rule-making**
- **Maintain close working relationships with State regulators and legislators**
- **Articulate Army/DoD positions**
- **Facilitate partnering with States**
- **Coordinate Regional/State/Local environmental issues**
- **Conduct outreach with National/Regional/State/ Local groups**
- **Share success stories, innovations, and lessons learned**

REO Operational Ground Rules

- **Honor the chain of command**
- **Cannot task installations**
- **Cannot commit DoD, military departments, or installations**
- **Cannot establish policy - Can provide guidance/information**
- **Keep HQDA, IMA, MACOMs, installations informed of developments and in the loop**

Army Regional Environmental Offices



DoD Regional Environmental Coordinator Structure

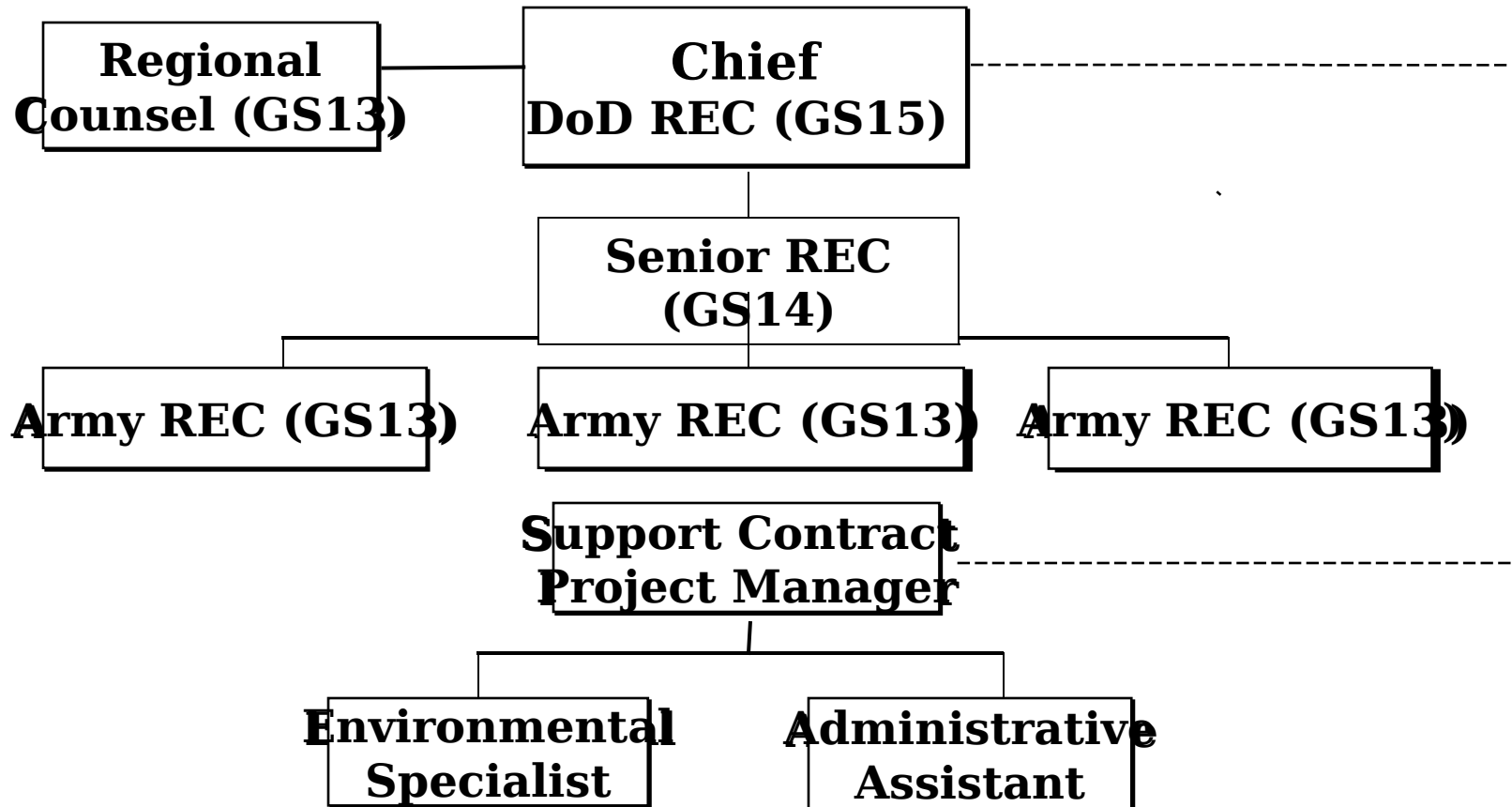


- **Military departments serve as DoD executive agents for regional environmental coordination** *Army Executive Agent is DASA(ESOH)*
- **Executive agents each appoint a DoD Regional Environmental Coordinator to coordinate issues in the assigned regions**
- **Component RECs coordinate component interests within the region and interface with the DoD REC**

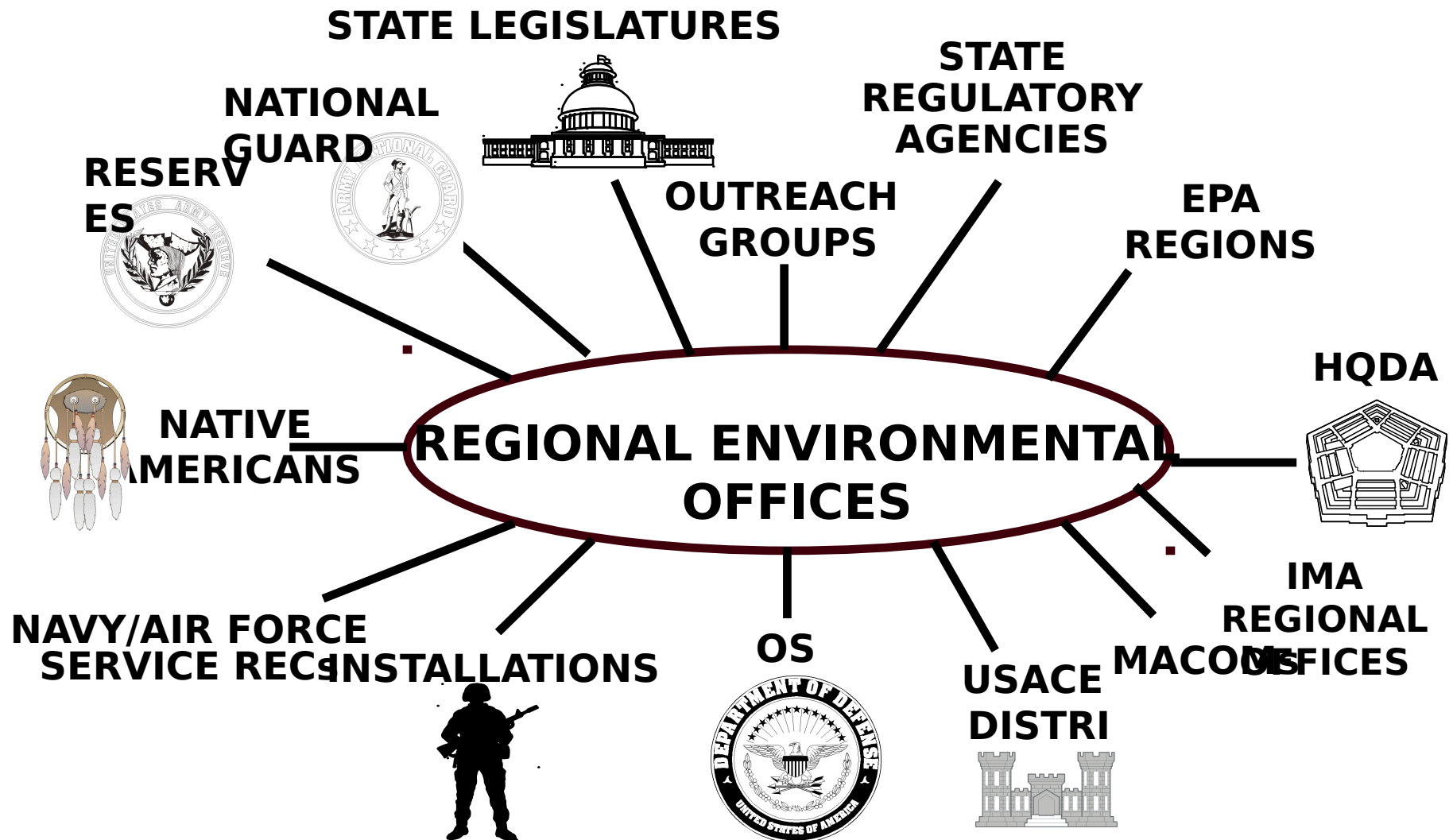
Differences Among Service REO's

- **Army - reports to DASA (ESOH), primary focus is on influencing State environmental legislation & regulation, and protecting Army interests related to environmental matters**
- **Air Force - reports to AFCEE, primary focus is on base compliance and advocacy**
- **Navy - reports to Naval Region Commander (Rear Admiral), primary focus is on base compliance and advocacy**

Typical Army Regional Environmental Office Organization (9 Total Positions)



REO Communication

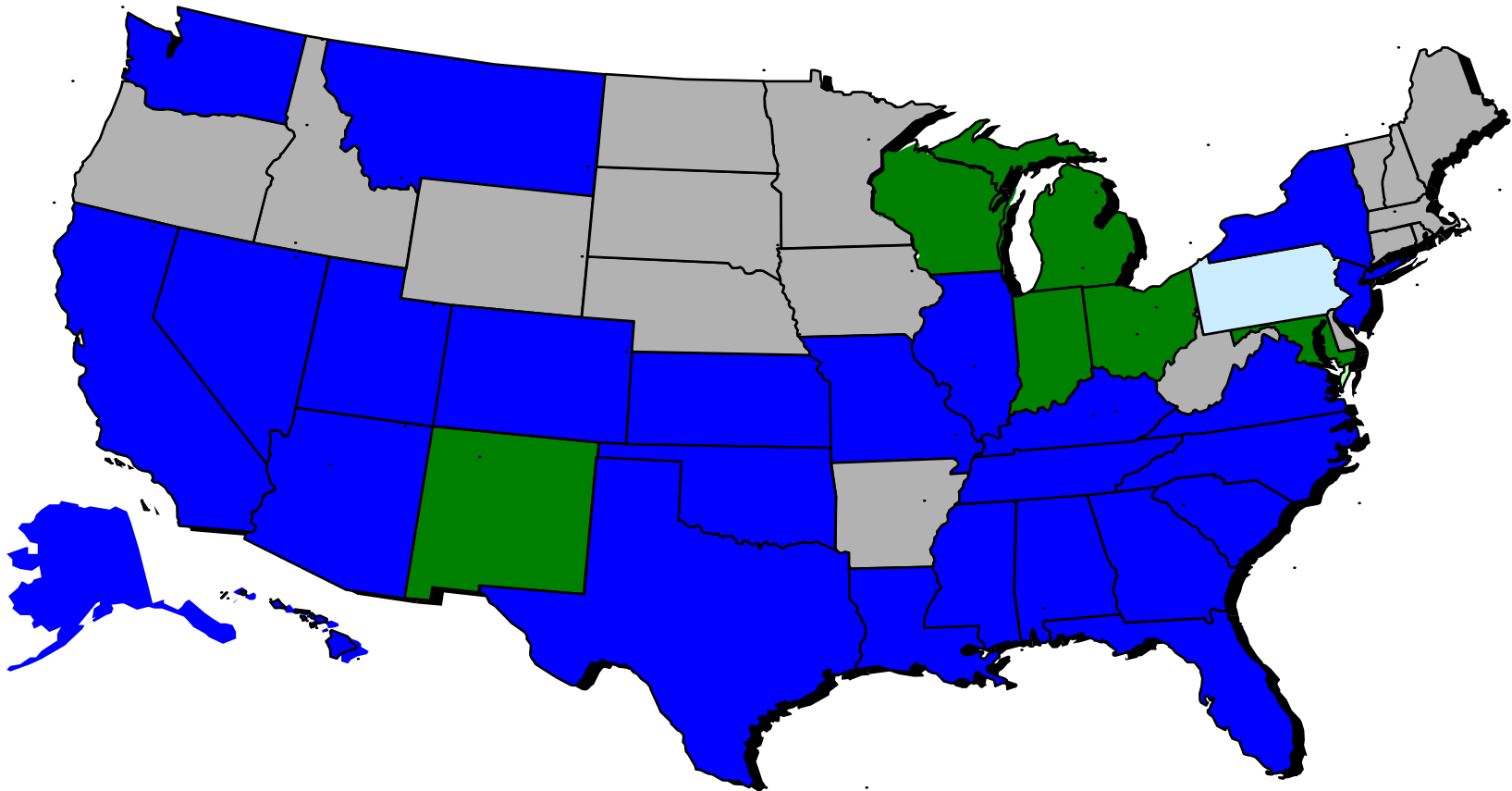


Primary REO Outreach Groups



- **EPA Regional Offices**
- **State Environmental Regulators**
- **Environmental Council of the States (ECOS)**
- **Natural Resources Leadership Council of the States (NRLCS)**
- **National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)**
- **National Association of Counties (NACo)**
- **Regional Focus Groups (e.g., South West Strategy, South East Natural Resources Leadership Group)**

Partnerships



P2 Partnerships (6)

 **Under Development (1)**

 **Sustainability
Partnerships /
Military
Environmental**

DOD-State-EPA Partnerships

- **Exist with over half the states (partnerships with signed charters)**
- **Initial partnership emphasis was on pollution prevention**
- **Most partnerships now cover all environmental matters**
- **Current partnership dialog focuses on State environmental legislation & regulation, sustainability, and environmental management systems**

REO Publications



- **Monthly Regional Legislative and Regulatory Reviews**
- **Quarterly Regional Newsletters**
- **Environmental Regulatory Alerts as Needed**

Highlights of Recent REO Initiatives/Accomplishments



- **Achieved favorable resolution of Georgia air compliance issues during training operations (fugitive dust/opacity limits)**
- **Obtained Title V air permit exception for tactical support equipment in Alabama, California, and Nevada**
- **Obtained regulatory variance from California opacity rule for use of obscurants**
- **Obtained California Air Resource Board variance for military spec fuels, reducing military operational costs and increasing deployability**
- **Facilitated state of Washington's obscurant use regulation development**

Highlights of Recent REO Initiatives/Accomplishments (Cont)

- **Networking/outreach with state regulators/legislators and other state and local government groups to promote support for RRPI**
- **Helped persuade Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection to re-review numerical cleanup standard for RDX**
- **Transitioned original P2 partnerships to sustainability partnerships or military environmental groups in most states**
- **Sponsorship/key participant in various DoD/State/EPA regional environmental conferences (e.g., Regions 3, 4 & 5)**

Highlights of Recent REO Initiatives/Accomplishments (Cont)

- **Obtained Kansas land use control legislative bill favorable to Army**
- **Assisted in drafting of EPA Region 4 land use control policy**
- **Drafted legislation that resolved hazardous waste fee payment by military in Georgia**
- **Obtained exemption for military to NPDES outfall posting rule in Georgia**

Summary



REOs are / have:

- **Established good working relationships and high level access to State/Federal regulators**
- **Helping minimize adverse impacts of proposed/existing legislation and regulation on installation operations**
- **Assisting installations in their working with States, Federal agencies, and Tribal governments**
- **Achieving cost savings and avoidances**